

# Appendix R

## *Fire Management Program*

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The Service has administrative responsibility, including fire management, for the Souris River basin refuges, which cover approximately 110,292 acres in north-central North Dakota.

### **The Role of Fire**

In ecosystems of the Great Plains, vegetation has evolved under periodic disturbance and defoliation from grazing, fire, drought, and floods. This periodic disturbance is what kept the ecosystem diverse and healthy while maintaining significant biodiversity for thousands of years.

Historically, natural fire and Native American ignitions played an important disturbance role in many ecosystems by removing fuel accumulations, decreasing the effects of insects and diseases, stimulating regeneration, cycling nutrients, and providing a diversity of habitats for plants and wildlife.

When fire or grazing is excluded from prairie landscapes, fuel loadings increase due to a buildup of thatch and invasion of woody vegetation. This increase in fuel loadings leads to an increase in a fire's resistance to control, which threatens firefighter and public safety as well as federal and private facilities. However, when properly used, fire can do the following:

- reduce hazardous fuels buildup in both wildland-urban interface (WUI) and non-WUI areas
- improve wildlife habitats by reducing the density of vegetation or changing plant species composition, or both
- sustain or increase biological diversity
- improve woodlands and shrub lands by reducing plant density
- reduce susceptibility of plants to insect and disease outbreaks
- improve the quality and quantity of livestock forage
- improve the quantity of water available for municipalities and activities dependent on wildlands for their water supply

### **Wildland Fire Management Policy and Guidance**

In 2001, the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture completed and approved an update of the 1995 "Federal Fire Policy." The 2001 "Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy" directs federal agencies to achieve a balance between fire suppression—to protect life, property, and resources—and fire use to regulate fuels and maintain healthy ecosystems. In addition, the policy directs agencies to use the appropriate management response for all wildland fire regardless of the ignition source. This policy provides eight guiding principles that are fundamental to the success of the fire management program:

- Firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every fire management activity.
- The role of wildland fire as an ecological process and natural change agent is incorporated into the planning process.
- Fire management plans (FMPs), programs, and activities support land and resource management plans and their implementation.
- Sound risk management is a foundation for all fire management activities.
- Fire management programs and activities are economically viable, based on values to be protected, costs, and land and resource management objectives.
- FMPs and activities are based on the best available science.
- FMPs and activities incorporate public health and environmental quality consideration.
- Federal, state, tribal, local, interagency, and international coordination and cooperation are essential.
- Standardization of policies and procedures among federal agencies is an ongoing objective.

The fire management considerations, guidance, and direction should be addressed in the land use resource plans, for example, the CCP. FMPs are step-down processes from the land use plans and habitat plans, with more detail on fire suppression, fire use, and fire management activities.

## Management Direction

The Souris River basin refuges will protect life, property, and other resources from wildland fire by safely suppressing all wildfires. Prescribed fire as well as manual and mechanical fuel treatments will be used in an ecosystem context to protect both federal and private property and for habitat management purposes.

Fuel reduction activities will be applied in collaboration with federal, state, private, and nongovernmental organization partners. In addition, fuel treatments will be prioritized based on the guidance for priority setting established in the goals and strategies outlined in the “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge System Wildland Fire Management Program Strategic Plan 2003–2010” and the “R6 Refuges Regional Priorities FY07–11.” For WUI treatments, areas with community wildfire protection plans and communities at risk will be the primary focus.

All aspects of the fire management program will be conducted in a manner consistent with applicable laws, policies, and regulations. The Souris River basin refuge stations will maintain an FMP to accomplish the fire management goals described below. Prescribed fire and manual and mechanical fuel treatments will be applied in a scientific way under selected weather and environmental conditions.

### *Fire Management Goals*

The goals and strategies of the “U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge System Wildland Fire Management Program Strategic Plan 2003–2010” are consistent with the following:

- Department and Service policies
- “National Fire Plan” direction
- President’s “Healthy Forest Initiative”
- “10-year Comprehensive Strategy and Implementation Plan”
- “National Wildfire Coordinating Group Guidelines”
- Wildland Fire Leadership Council initiatives
- “Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations”

The “R6 Refuges Regional Priorities FY07–11” are consistent with the Refuge System vision statement for region 6: “to maintain and improve the biological integrity of the region, ensure the ecological condition of the region’s public and private lands are better understood, and endorse sustainable use of habitats that support native wildlife and people’s livelihoods.” The fire

management goals for the Souris River basin refuges are to use prescribed fire and manual and mechanical treatments to (1) reduce the threat to life and property through hazardous fuels reduction treatments, and (2) meet the habitat goals and objectives identified in this CCP.

### *Fire Management Objective*

The objective of the fire management program is to use prescribed fire and manual and mechanical treatment methods to treat between 500 and 2,500 acres over a 5-year average.

### *Strategies*

The Service will use strategies and tactics that consider public and firefighter safety as well as resource values at risk. Wildland fire suppression, prescribed fire methods, manual and mechanical means, timing, and monitoring are described in more detail within the step-down FMP(s).

All management actions would use prescribed fire and manual and/or mechanical means to reduce hazardous fuels, restore and maintain desired habitat conditions, control nonnative vegetation, and control the spread of woody vegetation within the diverse ecosystem habitats. The fuels treatment program will be outlined in the FMP for the refuges. Site-specific, prescribed fire burn plans will be developed following the “Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide” (2006) template.

Prescribed fire temporarily reduces air quality by reducing visibility and releasing components through combustion. The refuges will meet the Clean Air Act emission standards by adhering to the “North Dakota State Implementation Plan” requirements during all prescribed fire activities.

### *Fire Management Organization, Contacts, and Cooperation*

Region 6 of the Service will establish qualified, fire management, technical oversight for the refuges using the “fire management district” approach. Under this approach, fire management staff will be determined by established modeling systems based on the fire management workload of a group of refuges and possibly that of interagency partners. The fire management workload consists of historical wildland fire-suppression activities as well as historical and planned fuels treatments.

Depending on budgets, fire management staffing and support equipment may be located at the administrative station or at other refuges and shared between all units. The Service will conduct fire management activities in a coordinated and collaborative manner with federal and nonfederal partners.

New FMP(s) will be developed for the Souris River basin refuges. The FMP(s) may be done as follows: (1) an FMP that covers each individual refuge; (2) an FMP that covers the refuges within this CCP; (3) an FMP that covers the fire management district; or (4) an interagency FMP.



# Appendix S

## Compatibility Determination for Recreational Hunting

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**Use:** Recreational Hunting

**Refuge Names:** Des Lacs National Wildlife  
Refuge (NWR)  
J. Clark Salyer NWR  
Upper Souris NWR

### Establishing and Acquisition Authorities

- Migratory Bird Conservation Act
- Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170

### Refuge Purposes

“As a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wild life.”  
[Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170]

“For use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds.”  
[16 U.S.C. § 715d (Migratory Bird Conservation Act)]

### National Wildlife Refuge System Mission

*The mission of the Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.*

### Description of Proposed Use:

#### *Recreational Hunting*

All three refuges are open to recreational public hunting in accordance with state of North Dakota seasons and regulations established for each area. Visitation during 2004 for this activity was estimated at Des Lacs NWR (big game 800, upland game 175); at J. Clark Salyer NWR (big game 2,000; upland game 600); and at Upper Souris NWR (big game 2,200; upland game 50). Currently hunted or additional animals that may be hunted are listed below.

#### *Des Lacs NWR*

deer	sharp-tailed grouse
fox	ring-necked pheasant
moose	Hungarian partridge
rabbit	turkey

#### *J. Clark Salyer NWR*

deer	sharp-tailed grouse
fox	ring-necked pheasant
waterfowl	Hungarian partridge
turkey	

#### *Upper Souris NWR*

deer	sharp-tailed grouse
fox	ring-necked pheasant
moose	Hungarian partridge
turkey	

Specific areas are open to hunting during early seasons. Other areas at the refuges, with the exception of administrative areas, may open later in the season. Additional hunting information, regulations, and maps are found in hunting brochures specific to J. Clark Salyer NWR and Upper Souris NWR (available at information kiosks and administrative areas).

Hunting is a designated priority public use established for the Refuge System. The harvest of these species would be compensatory mortality, with minimal impact to the overall health of their populations.

### Availability of Resources

Currently, sufficient resources are available to continue the existing recreational hunting programs. Implementing improvements or expanding hunting opportunities will be described in step-down management plans and addressed through future funding requests. The refuges will provide special accommodations for people with disabilities.

### Anticipated Impacts of Use

The CCP recommends an annual review of the hunting program. This evaluation will determine what effect diverting funding and staff will have on the ability of the refuges to implement habitat management. Limited staff and funding will be directed toward habitat management first. Lack of funding and personnel may result in decreased opportunities and/or facilities.

Temporary disturbance will exist to wildlife near the activity. Animals surplus to populations will be removed by hunting. A temporary decrease in populations of wild animals will be experienced which may help ensure that carrying capacity (especially for big-game species) is not exceeded.

Closed areas will provide some sanctuary for game and nongame species, minimize conflicts between hunters and other visitors, and provide a safety zone around communities and administrative areas.

## Public Review and Comment

Public review and comment will be solicited through public posting of notices at each refuge, notices in local newspapers, and public meetings held during the CCP process.

## Determination

Recreational hunting is compatible.

## Stipulations Necessary to Ensure Compatibility

Current hunting regulations will be retained. The following stipulations will apply to all three refuges:

- Hunting will be permitted in accordance with state regulations.
- Overnight camping and open fires will not be allowed.
- The areas around refuge offices, visitor centers, and residences will be posted closed to hunting. State law prohibits hunting within one-quarter mile of an occupied building.
- It will be unlawful to carry a loaded firearm in any vehicle on refuge lands or roads.
- Nontoxic shot will be required for hunting upland game and waterfowl. No other type of shot may be possessed while in the field.
- Collecting, injuring, disturbing, destroying, or harming any animal or plant except legally taken game animals will be prohibited.
- Searching for, disturbing, or collecting prehistoric or historic artifacts will be prohibited.
- Archery and gun seasons for deer hunting will coincide with state hunting seasons.
- A deer hunter will need a special state permit to hunt on a refuge during rifle season. A hunter with a state, muzzleloader, deer permit will be allowed to hunt without a refuge permit.
- Trash, including shell casings, will be required to be packed out so the areas remain clean, natural, and enjoyable.
- Possession of fireworks will be prohibited.
- Possessing alcohol will be prohibited. Intoxicated and disorderly conduct will not be permitted. Open container of alcoholic beverage in a vehicle will be prohibited.

The following stipulations will apply only to J. Clark Salyer NWR:

- Nine designated areas will be open for hunting waterfowl, sharp-tailed grouse, partridge, pheasant, and deer.
- The entire refuge will be open for late-season sharp-tailed grouse, partridge, pheasant, and fox hunting following the close of firearm deer season, in accordance with state hunting seasons.
- Entry without a firearm to retrieve legally taken waterfowl will be permitted within 100 yards of exterior refuge boundaries and interior boundaries of designated public hunting areas.

The following stipulations will apply only to Upper Souris NWR:

- Vehicle travel will be restricted to public roads and recreation area parking lots. The use of all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and other off-road vehicles will not be allowed.
- Horses will not be permitted.
- Weapons will not be allowed in boats and canoes.
- Preseason scouting for deer will be allowed only in open public use areas and areas marked "Foot Traffic Only."
- Baiting for deer will not be allowed.
- Portable tree stands during deer hunting will be allowed, but daily removal will be required. Only strap-on steps or removable climbing ladders will be allowed.
- Hunters will be allowed to carry, drag, or use carts to remove their deer.
- Once hunters filled their deer tags, they will not be allowed to return to the refuge with weapons. However, they will be allowed to carry shotguns while hunting upland game birds in open bird-hunting areas.
- Land south of Lake Darling Dam will be closed to all upland game bird hunting.
- Wearing of a blaze orange vest and cap will be required when hunting game birds during the deer firearm season.
- Dogs will be allowed during hunting of grouse, partridge, and pheasant.

## Justification

Recreational public hunting is an historical wildlife-dependent use of the refuges, and is designated as one of the priority public uses in the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. Infrastructure is in place to support hunting programs, while current staffing levels and funding

are adequate. Special regulations are in place to minimize negative impacts to the refuges and associated wildlife, and state of North Dakota law further controls hunter activities.

Hunting is a legitimate wildlife management tool that can be used to control wildlife populations.

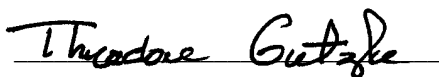
Hunting harvests a small percentage of the renewable resources, which is in accordance with wildlife management objectives and principals.

**Mandatory 15-Year Reevaluation Date:**  
2021

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## Review

## Concurrence



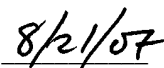
Theodore Gutzke  
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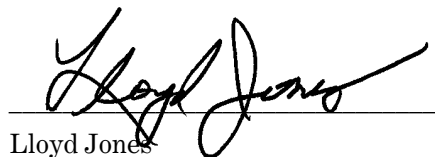
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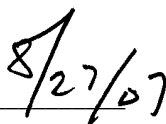
Richard A. Coleman, PhD  
Assistant Regional Director, NWRS  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
Lakewood, CO



Date



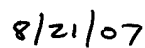
Lloyd Jones  
Regional Compatibility Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Coleharbor, ND



Date



Rod Krey  
Refuge Supervisor (KS, NE, ND, SD)  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Lakewood, CO



Date





# Appendix T

## *Compatibility Determination for Wildlife Observation, Photography, Environmental Education, and Interpretation*

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**Uses:** Wildlife Observation, Photography, Environmental Education, and Interpretation

**Refuge Names:** Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)  
J. Clark Salyer NWR  
Upper Souris NWR

### **Establishing and Acquisition Authorities**

- Migratory Bird Conservation Act
- Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170

### **Refuge Purposes**

“As a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wild life.”

[Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170]

“For use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds.”  
[16 U.S.C. § 715d (Migratory Bird Conservation Act)]

### **National Wildlife Refuge System Mission**

*The mission of the Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.*

### **Description of Proposed Uses:**

***Wildlife Observation, Photography,  
Environmental Education, and Interpretation***

All three refuges are currently open to public use in accordance with special refuge regulations developed for each refuge. Total estimated visits during 2004 for these activities were 10,675 visits for Des Lacs NWR, 14,830 visits for J. Clark Salyer NWR, and 67,712 visits for Upper Souris NWR. Entry into closed areas may be permitted by special use permit and special conditions; these will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

These activities may take place by foot, bicycle, automobile, boat, canoe, horse, cross-county skis, and snowshoes. Refuge staff will assist in activities when available. Organized groups such as school, scouts, 4-H, and others may have instructors or leaders who will use the refuges' habitats and facilities to conduct compatible programs. Ages of participants range from preschool to college and beyond.

Current activities for the refuges are listed below.

#### *Des Lacs NWR*

- 1 auto tour route (scenic backway)
- 4 hiking trails (1 national recreation trail)
- 1 canoe route
- 1 observation blind
- 3 annual environmental education events
- 1 interpretive kiosk
- 1 visitor contact station in headquarters building

The auto tour route is open daily from 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Informational brochures are available at the kiosk located beside the refuge headquarters, which is open Monday–Friday (except on federal holidays) from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### *J. Clark Salyer NWR*

- 2 auto tour routes (both interpreted)
- 1 hiking trail
- 1 canoe route (national recreation trail)
- 1 observation blind
- 1 kiosk
- 1 visitor contact station in headquarters building

Specific areas are open daily to the public, from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Office hours are Monday–Friday (except on federal holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regulations are available at information kiosks and administrative areas. In addition, a bird list is available.

*Upper Souris NWR*

- 1 auto tour route
- 5 hiking trails (1 is interpreted)
- 2 canoe routes
- 4 observation blinds
- 2 interpretive kiosks (2 additional kiosks are planned for 2006 construction)
- 1 visitor contact station in headquarters building
- 1 viewing platform

Specific areas are open to public, from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., year-round. Visitor center hours are Monday–Friday (except on federal holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regulations are available at information kiosks and administrative areas. In addition, lists for wildlife including birds and mammals are available.

### Availability of Resources

Currently, sufficient resources are available to continue the existing public use programs. The refuges will provide special accommodations for people with disabilities.

The CCP recommends (1) expanding interpretation and environmental education, and (2) maintaining or decreasing development of wildlife observation programs and facilities. The interpretation and environmental education programs will emphasize the principles of natural plant and animal communities and ecological processes and restoration.

Implementing improvements or expanding public use opportunities will be addressed in future step-down management plans and through future funding requests. Program expansion will require increased funding for operations and maintenance. When funding is not adequate to operate and maintain programs, the public use will be reduced in scope or discontinued. Informational kiosks, interpretive signs, and other infrastructure are in place for the present level of public use.

### Anticipated Impacts of Uses

No detrimental impacts are anticipated with the public use programs. Temporary disturbance will exist to wildlife near the activity. Closed areas will provide sanctuary for wildlife.

### Public Review and Comment

Public review and comment will be solicited through public posting of notices at each refuge, notices in local newspapers, and public meetings held during the CCP process.

### Determination

Wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation are compatible.

### Stipulations Necessary to Ensure Compatibility

Current regulations related to these wildlife-dependent uses will be retained. The following stipulations will apply to all three refuges:

- Collecting, injuring, disturbing, destroying, or harming any animal or plant will be prohibited.
- Searching for, disturbing, or collecting prehistoric or historic artifacts will be prohibited.
- Vehicles will be required to stay on designated roads.
- Trespassing in closed areas will not be permitted.
- Overnight camping and open fires will not be allowed.
- Trash will be required to be packed out so the areas will remain clean, natural, and enjoyable.
- Pets will be required to be leashed, except dogs used while hunting.
- Firearms will be prohibited except during appropriate hunting seasons.
- Possession of fireworks will be prohibited.
- Possessing alcohol will be prohibited. Intoxicated and disorderly conduct will not be permitted. Open container of alcoholic beverage in a vehicle will be prohibited.

The following stipulation will apply only to Des Lacs NWR:

- Swimming and motorized boating will be prohibited.

The following stipulations will apply only to Upper Souris NWR:

- Wildlife observation will be permitted year-round in all open areas, on nature trails, on the auto tour route, and in areas marked with “Foot Traffic Only” signs.
- Permission will be required to enter closed areas.
- Photo blinds for observing sharp-tailed grouse on their dancing grounds will be available in April by phone reservation.
- Two canoe trails will be available from May 1 to September. No swimming will be permitted on either the Beaver Lodge or Mouse River canoe trails.
- Swimming, water skiing, and sailing will not be allowed. Recreational boating and the use of jet boats or personal watercraft will not be allowed.

- The use of all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and other off-road vehicles will not be allowed.
- The use of horses for wildlife viewing will be allowed with advanced permission from the refuge manager.
- Dog training will not be allowed.
- Guiding will be prohibited.
- Geocaching or similar activity will be prohibited.

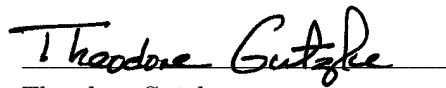
### Justification

Wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation are historical wildlife-

dependent uses of the refuges, and are designated as priority public uses in the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. Infrastructure is in place to support public use programs, while current staffing levels and funding are adequate. Special regulations are in place to minimize negative impacts to the refuges and associated wildlife.

**Mandatory 15-Year Reevaluation Date:**  
2021

### Review



Theodore Gutzke  
Project Leader  
Souris River Basin NWR Complex  
Upham, ND

8/20/2007

Date



Lloyd Jones  
Regional Compatibility Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Coleharbor, ND

8/27/07

Date



Rod Krey  
Refuge Supervisor (KS, NE, ND, SD)  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Lakewood, CO

8/21/07

Date

### Concurrence



Richard A. Coleman, PhD  
Assistant Regional Director, NWRS  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
Lakewood, CO

8/21/07  
Date



# Appendix U

## *Compatibility Determination for Recreational Fishing*

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**Use:** Recreational Fishing

**Refuge Names:** J. Clark Salyer National  
Wildlife Refuge (NWR)  
Upper Souris NWR

### **Establishing and Acquisition Authorities**

- Migratory Bird Conservation Act
- Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170

### **Refuge Purposes**

“As a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wild life.”  
[Executive Orders 7154-A, 7161, and 7170]

“For use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds.”  
[16 U.S.C. § 715d (Migratory Bird Conservation Act)]

### **National Wildlife Refuge System Mission**

*The mission of the Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.*

### **Description of Proposed Use:**

#### ***Continued Historical Public Use Activity of Noncommercial Fishing***

Public use areas such as parking areas, fishing areas, boat ramps, docks, jetties, piers, interpretive panels and signs, informational kiosks, and other structures will need to be maintained to facilitate this program. Seasonally sensitive areas at the refuge will remain closed to the public. Public visitation at Upper Souris NWR may range from 30,000 to 150,000 visits annually for fishing, while at J. Clark Salyer annual visitation may range from 3,000 to 5,000 visits.

Only selected areas of each refuge will be open to fishing and will be posted accordingly. Special refuge regulations for fishing will be available in brochures at the refuge.

#### ***J. Clark Salyer NWR***

At J. Clark Salyer NWR, there are 14 public fishing areas and each is posted with “Public Fishing Area”

signs. Fishing is open year-round. The refuge is open daily from 5:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Anglers are required to follow North Dakota state law and refuge regulations.

- Bank fishing at designated sites is allowed whenever there is open water.
- Boat fishing, without motors, is allowed in designated areas from May 1 through September 30.
- Ice fishing at designated areas is allowed when the ice is thick enough to support anglers. Only insured and licensed automobiles are allowed on the ice. The use of ice-fishing shelters will be allowed in accordance with state law and special refuge regulations.

#### ***Upper Souris NWR***

Fishing at Upper Souris NWR is allowed year-round from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Anglers are required to follow North Dakota state law and refuge regulations. There are four developed boat ramps with associated parking areas, boat docks, and restroom facilities to support the summer boat-fishing program.

- Bank fishing at designated sites is allowed whenever there is open water. Thirteen areas are open for bank fishing. Parking areas and several restroom facilities are available to bank anglers.
- Boat fishing is allowed from May 1 through September 30 at two designated areas of Lake Darling.
- Ice fishing is allowed when the ice is thick enough to support anglers. Several areas are designated for ice fishing access. Only properly insured and registered automobiles and pickups will be allowed to drive on the ice of Lake Darling. The use of ice fishing shelters will be allowed in accordance with state law and special refuge regulations.
- Fishing tournaments may be allowed by issuing special use permits and special conditions. Permits will only be issued to nonprofit organizations. Ten percent of the entry fees will be returned to the refuge to maintain or replace fishing facilities. Typical special conditions governing fishing tournaments are attached.

### **Availability of Resources**

Currently, both refuges have adequate administrative and management staff to maintain their fishing programs. Implementing improvements or expanding

fishing opportunities will be described in step-down management plans and addressed through future funding requests. The refuges will provide special accommodations for people with disabilities.

At Upper Souris NWR, boat ramps and docks are in place and all have been replaced within the last 5 years. Condition of these facilities is currently good to excellent.

Annual funding is needed for seasonal workforce salary and for supplies to maintain fishing facilities (including mowing, painting, repair, litter pickup, restroom cleaning, and periodic pumping costs of vaulted toilets). Funding is needed for a maintenance worker salary and equipment to maintain fishing areas and facilities.

Funding is needed for law enforcement salary, fuel costs, repair and maintenance of patrol vehicles, and associated costs to support the law enforcement program. Routine law enforcement patrols occur year-round. J. Clark Salyer NWR has two collateral-duty law enforcement officers. Upper Souris NWR has one full-time law enforcement officer and two “collateral duty” law enforcement officers. Both refuges also receive assistance from local North Dakota state district wardens.

## Anticipated Impacts of Use

The CCP recommends an annual review of the fishing program. This evaluation will determine what effect diverting funding and staff will have on the ability of the refuges to implement habitat management. Limited staff and funding will be directed toward habitat management first. Lack of funding and personnel may result in decreased opportunities, or facilities, or both.

Temporary disturbance of wildlife may occur near fishing activity. Fishing will temporarily decrease the fish population until natural reproduction or stocking replenishes the population. Frequency of use will be directly dependent on fish populations and their feeding activity. When fish populations are high and active, public use will climb and vice versa. No long-term negative impacts to the refuge or its resources are anticipated.

## Public Review and Comment

Public review and comment will be solicited through public posting of notices at each refuge, notices in local newspapers, and public meetings held during the CCP process.

## Determination

Recreational fishing is compatible.

## Stipulations Necessary to Ensure Compatibility

Current fishing regulations will be retained. The following stipulations will apply to both refuges:

- Fishing will be permitted in accordance with state regulations.
- Use or possession of baitfish other than those listed in the North Dakota Fishing Guide will be prohibited.
- Collecting, injuring, disturbing, destroying, or harming any plant or animal (including minnows, frogs, crawfish, and worms) will be prohibited.
- Searching for, disturbing, or collecting prehistoric or historic artifacts will be prohibited.
- Overnight camping and open fires will not be allowed.
- Vehicles will be required to stay on designated roads.
- Trespassing in closed areas will not be permitted.
- Overnight camping and open fires will not be allowed.
- Trash will be required to be packed out so the areas remain clean, natural, and enjoyable.
- Pets will be required to be leashed.
- Firearms will be prohibited except during appropriate hunting seasons.
- Possession of fireworks will be prohibited.
- Possessing alcohol will be prohibited. Intoxicated and disorderly conduct will not be permitted. Open container of alcoholic beverage in a vehicle will be prohibited.

The following stipulation will apply only to J. Clark Salyer NWR:

- Ice fishing will be permitted on all refuge waters between December 15 and the end of the state fishing season.

The following stipulations will apply only to Upper Souris NWR:

- Fishing boats and canoes will be permitted on Lake Darling from May 1 to September 30 in designated fishing areas.
- Float tube fishing will be allowed where boat fishing is permitted.
- Releasing baitfish into any refuge or state waters will be prohibited.
- Operation of a boat in excess of idle speed in the Grano Boat Ramp Bay will be prohibited.
- Fishing will not be permitted on the Beaver Lodge Canoe Trail.

- Bow and spear fishing, including underwater spear fishing, will be prohibited.
- Use of designated spring, summer, and fall fishing areas will follow area-specific regulations described in the fishing brochure available at the refuge.
- The use of all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles will not be allowed.
- Access to ice for ice fishing will be permitted only at designated sites.
- Only cars and pickups will be allowed on the ice from Lake Darling Dam north to Carter Dam for ice-fishing purposes.
- At designated winter-fishing areas, ice-fishing shelters will be permitted and will be required to be removed on the date set by the state for ice-fishing shelter removal. Following the date for removal of permanent shelters, portable ones will be permitted but will need to be removed daily.

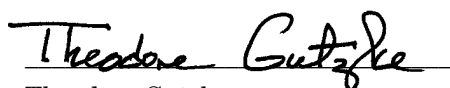
- At the remainder of the refuge, portable ice-fishing shelters will be permitted but will need to be removed daily.
- Fishing tournaments will conform to event-specific conditions such as those specified in the attachment.

### Justification

Recreational fishing is an historical wildlife-dependent use of each refuge, and is designated as one of the priority public uses in the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. Current staffing levels and funding resources are adequate. Special regulations are in place to minimize negative impacts to the refuges' habitats and associated wildlife.

**Mandatory 15-Year Reevaluation Date:**  
2021

### Review



Theodore Gutzke  
Project Leader  
Souris River Basin NWR Complex  
Upham, ND

8/30/2007

Date



Lloyd Jones  
Regional Compatibility Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Coleharbor, ND

8/27/07

Date



Rod Krey  
Refuge Supervisor (KS, NE, ND, SD)  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
NWRS  
Lakewood, CO

8/21/07

Date

### Concurrence



Richard A. Coleman, PhD  
Assistant Regional Director, NWRS  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6  
Lakewood, CO

8/21/07

Date

## **Attachment—Typical Special Conditions**

### **Upper Souris NWR**

#### **Ice Fishing and Open-water Fishing Tournaments**

1. This permit will only be valid after a North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGF) fishing contest permit has been issued.
2. The permittee shall conduct and supervise this event by following the refuge and NDGF fishing contest rules and regulations and by following all required self-imposed tournament rules.
3. The permittee shall submit a report within 30 days after completion of the fishing contest to the refuge manager and to NDGF. The report should include the following: (1) number of contest participants; (2) quantity (number, total length, and weight) and species of fish taken in the contest; (3) gross and net proceeds for the tournament; (4) percentage of entry fees paid to participants as prizes; and (5) identification of the intended fishery conservation project to be accomplished at Upper Souris NWR. Failure to submit this report shall be justification for denial of future fishing contest permits.
4. The permittee shall provide readily visible and marked patrol vehicles staffed with volunteers to assist contestants having problems and to check for compliance with ice-fishing tournament rules. One patrol vehicle per 50 teams is required during ice-fishing tournaments.

The permittee shall provide readily visible and marked patrol boats staffed with volunteers to assist contestants having problems and to check for compliance with open water fishing tournament rules. The ratio of tournament patrol boats to participant boats shall be at no time less than 1:20 in fishing contests involving 100 or fewer boats, and 1: 25 for contests involving more than 100 boats.

5. All areas where the tournament is held shall be cleaned of litter before leaving for the day. All trash must be packed out. There are no fish cleaning facilities available.
6. Participants shall not interfere with other refuge visitor activities.
7. No entry or participation fees or prize winnings may be collected or distributed on federal property. No commercial products may be sold or distributed on federal property.
8. All fish brought to the check station to be measured or weighed shall be marked by cutting off one-half of the tailfin and the fish returned to the contestant. All fish must remain in the possession of the team that caught them.
9. Participants may use only one-half of the "Landing 1" parking lot during open water fishing tournaments. The remainder of the parking lot is reserved for refuge visitors not fishing in the tournament. Non-tournament anglers should not have to wait in line to launch their boat. Tournament sponsors shall provide volunteers to direct parking of participants and non-tournament anglers. The overflow parking lot west of the township road may be used for tournament vehicle and trailer parking.



# Appendix V

## *RONs and SAMMS Projects, Des Lacs NWR*

### Refuge Operations Needs System

RONs amounts shown for Des Lacs NWR include a startup cost to carry out each program, with successive yearly costs that are significantly less.

<i>RONs<sup>1</sup> Number</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>First-Year Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Recurring Annual Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Personnel (FTE<sup>2</sup>)</i>
R-94009	Implement the geographic information system (computer specialist).	151	74	1.0
R-99009	Increase resource protection and security (law enforcement officer).	140	60	1.0
R-99013	Increase biological monitoring for adaptive resource management (biologist).	151	74	1.0
R-93007	Increase habitat management (refuge manager).	151	74	1.0
R-94001	Increase the integrated pest management program (biological technician).	106	50	1.0
R-93014	Protect and manage water rights.	126	0	0
R-94005	Construct an equipment storage building.	200	0	0
R-01002	Construct refuge housing for the law enforcement officer.	228	0	0
R-99003	Construct water development to expand the grassland grazing program.	155	0	0
R-99001	Conduct a cultural resource inventory.	55	0	0

<sup>1</sup> RONs=Refuge Operations Needs System.

<sup>2</sup> FTE=full-time equivalent; one or more tours of duty that, when combined, equate to one person employed for the standard government work-year.

## Service Asset Maintenance Management System

<i>SAMMS*</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Cost</i> <i>(\$1,000s)</i>
<i>Deferred Maintenance</i>		
93106800	Replace the unit 4 water control structure.	215
93106830	Replace the unit 5 water control structure.	235
93106834	Replace the unit 6 water control structure and emergency spillway.	280
01116014	Replace the unit 3 water control structure spillway/weir.	250
01115455	Replace residence Q-4.	280
<i>Large Construction</i>		
	Construct the fire equipment storage and cache.	450
<i>Road Rehabilitation</i>		
03126148	Do preliminary engineering of auto tour route (routes 011, 012,103; 12.3 miles).	313
03126149	Construct and asphalt the auto tour route (routes 011, 012,103; 12.3 miles).	1,500
03126152	Do preliminary engineering of the Canada Goose Trail (route 102, 11.0 miles).	282
03126153	Construct the Canada Goose Trail (route 102, 11.0 miles).	2,700
<i>Heavy Equipment</i>		
97106791	Replace the 1978 Ford backhoe.	110
99106837	Replace the 1978 JD 544 B front-end loader.	181
01114123	Replace the 1979 IHC tractor.	95
<i>Small Equipment</i>		
00106802	Replace the 1992 Dodge Dakota 4x4 pickup.	30
01111766	Replace the 1990 Polaris 4x4 ATV.	10
01111763	Replace the 1989 Dodge 4x4 pickup.	30
01111766	Replace the 1989 Chevrolet 4x4 pickup.	30
01114123	Replace the 1997 Ford 4x4 pickup.	30
00106859	Replace the 1984 Type 4X fire engine.	98

\*SAMMS=Service Asset Maintenance Management System.

# Appendix W

## *RONs and SAMMS Projects, J. Clark Salyer NWR*

### Refuge Operations Needs System

RONs amounts shown for J. Clark Salyer NWR include a startup cost to carry out each program, with successive yearly costs that are significantly less.

<i>RONs<sup>1</sup> Number</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>First-Year Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Recurring Annual Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Personnel (FTE<sup>2</sup>)</i>
R-00001	Restore and enhance the prairie grassland and forest habitat (resource specialist).	125	75	1.0
R-99012	Improve marsh habitat management (refuge operations specialist).	139	75	1.0
R-99010	Improve habitat management, and population and habitat monitoring (biologist).	139	75	1.0
R-00002	Improve visitor services and outreach programs (administrative receptionist/clerk).	110	55	1.0
R-03001	Improve the resource protection capability (law enforcement officer).	136	55	1.0
R-97010	Enhance streamflow monitoring and the water management capability (refuge operations specialist).	97	55	1.0
R-97038	Develop a new area-capacity table for marsh impoundments.	324	0	—

<sup>1</sup> RONs=Refuge Operations Needs System.

<sup>2</sup> FTE=full-time equivalent; one or more tours of duty that, when combined, equate to one person employed for the standard government work-year.

## Service Asset Maintenance Management System

<i>SAMMS*</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Cost</i> <i>(\$1,000s)</i>
<i>Deferred Maintenance</i>		
90106948	Replace the boundary fence.	118
02121135	Repair the pool 320 dike and nesting islands.	201
89106942	Rehabilitate the 6-stall storage building.	28
99106956	Repair and rehabilitate quarters 40.	223
01117727	Rehabilitate the office visitor area.	34
<i>Large Construction</i>		
97109872	Construct a vehicle and equipment storage building.	1,460
99109875	Improve water level management in pool 341.	1,298
<i>Small Construction</i>		
99112488	Construct a wildfire response storage building.	449
97123485	Construct an equipment storage yard.	54
<i>Road Rehabilitation</i>		
88106960	Do preliminary engineering for the headquarters and a scenic trail.	408
02121139	Construct a scenic trail.	1,400
02121147	Construct the headquarters road and parking areas.	396
10028965	Replace the Johnson Bridge.	689
<i>Heavy Equipment</i>		
00106973	Replace the 1972 Caterpillar grader.	116
01115317	Replace the 1968 5-ton 6x6 fire truck.	95
01117349	Replace the Case 680E loader/backhoe.	95
01116659	Replace the 1972 White semi-tractor.	105
01117375	Replace the 1972 John Deere 8630 tractor.	126
01116987	Replace the 1982 dump truck.	95
<i>Small Equipment</i>		
01113840	Replace the 1996 Honda ATV.	7
01115730	Replace the 1991 Chevrolet Service truck.	33
01113900	Replace the John Deere loader tractor.	90
01116659	Replace the John Deere rotary mower.	9
01116659	Replace the 1988 pickup.	29

\*SAMMS=Service Asset Maintenance Management System.

# Appendix X

## *RONs and SAMMS Projects, Upper Souris NWR*

### Refuge Operations Needs System

RONs amounts shown for Upper Souris NWR include a startup cost to carry out each program, with successive yearly costs that are significantly less.

<i>RONs<sup>1</sup> Number</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>First-Year Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Recurring Annual Need (\$1,000s)</i>	<i>Personnel (FTE<sup>2</sup>)</i>
R-97008	Monitor adaptive management (biologist).	151.0	86	1.0
R-97001	Increase the environmental education and outreach efforts (public use specialist).	151.0	86	1.0
R-00002	Support the visitor service, educational, biological, and law enforcement functions (receptionist/typist).	63.5	26	0.5
R-98002	Initiate a comprehensive biological inventory (biological technician).	74.5	37	0.5
R-02001	Manage invasive species (range technician).	83.0	39	0.5
R-97005	Develop a fire management program.	130.5	78	1.0
R-97004	Protect water rights and monitor water quality.	193.0	140	0
R-01001	Compile and analyze the existing Souris River water quality data and its effect on the refuge.	358.0	48	0.6
R-01004	Construct a shelter for environmental education activities.	185.0	43	0.6
R-97019	Survey for archeological and historical sites.	181.0	10	0

<sup>1</sup> RONs=Refuge Operations Needs System.

<sup>2</sup> FTE=full-time equivalent; one or more tours of duty that, when combined, equate to one person employed for the standard government work-year.

## Service Asset Maintenance Management System

<i>SAMMS*</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Cost</i> <i>(\$1,000s)</i>
<i>Deferred Maintenance</i>		
05139174	Expand quarters 7.	118
01117654	Deepen the landing 1 boat channel.	160
89106755	Rehabilitate the deteriorating dam 41 Oxbow Marshes.	136
05139281	Replace unsafe bridges (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> north of Highway 5 East).	129
05139389	Replace three unsafe bridges north of Highway 5 West.	129
93106756	Replace a deteriorated bridge (1 <sup>st</sup> north of dam 41 east).	43
05139360	Replace unsafe bridges (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , and 4 <sup>th</sup> north of Greene, West).	172
00106777	Replace 12 miles of boundary fence (Highway 28 to dam 41 west).	257
89106776	Replace 11 miles of boundary fence (Highway 28 to dam 41 east).	237
89106775	Replace 7 miles of boundary fence (Grano to Highway 28 West).	151
<i>Small Construction</i>		
97109865	Build a new equipment storage building.	725
97123624	Construct two interpretive observation towers.	164
98109866	Expand the refuge office's interpretive, educational, and office space.	447
97123510	Create prairie wetlands and restore riparian wetlands.	135
02121177	Replace two deteriorated mobile home trailers.	354
<i>Heavy Equipment</i>		
01117777	Replace the 1979 Case backhoe.	79
96106738	Replace the aging 1986 5-ton, White Freightliner truck tractor.	182
01117780	Replace the 1981 GMC dump truck.	116
<i>Small Equipment</i>		
01117696	Replace the worn-out 1985 blue Dodge pickup.	32
97106744	Replace the aging 1990 Chevy 4x4 extended cab pickup.	29
97106745	Replace the aging 1991 Chevy 4x4 pickup.	34
01117706	Replace the 1999 John Deere F911 riding lawn mower.	14
01117711	Replace the 1991 Chevrolet fire engine.	37
01117784	Replace the 1990 Wajax Pacific BB-4 fire pumper unit.	13
<i>Road Rehabilitation</i>		
02121052	Construct the landing 1 parking lot (916).	156

<i>SAMMS*</i> <i>Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Cost</i> <i>(\$1,000s)</i>
98106752	Construct the Outlet Fishing Area road and parking (route 101, parking lot 908-9; 0.5 mile).	272
98106750	Do the preliminary engineering for landings 2 and 3 roads, parking, and spillway road and parking (routes 12, 102; 1.72 miles; parking lots 900 and 908-917).	136
98106768	Construct landings 2 and 3 roads, parking, and the spillway road and parking (routes 12, 102; 1.72 miles; parking lots 900 and 908-917).	1,100
02121048 02121049	Pave the Overlook Viewing Trail parking lot (Federal Highway Administration [FHWA] Route 910); regravels the Lake Darling Interpretive Overlook (FHWA Route 913); and pave the Lake Darling Dam pullout (FHWA 911).	108

\*SAMMS=Service Asset Maintenance Management System.





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